

## ABSTRACT

The invention relates to a mechanism for triggering a gasbag which is arranged below the surface of a dashboard or a paneling of a vehicle. Gasbags of this type are generally referred to as airbags and are filled with a propellant. When the airbag is triggered, the pressure of the puffing-out sack actuates a flap 8 which is provided at its outer end with a connecting element 13. The connecting element can be designed as a slack tension cable, stiff lever or as a strap. When the airbag is actuated, the flap 8 is rotated about its hinge point and pulled rearward (i.e. away from the person to be protected) by the connecting element. This releases an opening in the vehicle interior paneling for the passage of the airbag. The arrangement of the airbag and of the flap require minimal depth dimensions for the airbag construction in the dashboard and therefore permits greater freedom in the configuration of the dashboard and therefore leads to greater space within the vehicle.